STANDARD FORM NO. 64

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Bureau of FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS APR 26 1951 ASSISTANT SECRETARY Department of State

TO : FE - Mr. Merchant DATE: April 25, 1951

FROM : CA - Mr. Clubb

SUBJECT: Organization of Task Force for Work with "Third Force" Elements

AUG 5 1952 ASSISTANT SECRETARY Department of State

Reference: CA Memorandum of April 10, 1951

793.00/4-1051 unclassified?

In support of the project set forth in CA's reference memorandum, it is proposed, particularly in the light of current developments in Korea, that the organization of a task force to work with "third force" elements who may be discovered in Hong Kong and elsewhere should be undertaken at once. It is proposed that this "task force" be set up to comprise two or three experienced Foreign Service officers, with a directive to go into action.

It is emphasized again that the officers in question should be officers commanding the Chinese language and possessing wide experience of Chinese conditions and Chinese personalities. Their experience should have been such as to give them steady, perceptive judgment in respect to the course of current events on the China mainland. Such officers are regrettably few, but it is deemed essential that they be assigned to the task at hand, which is viewed as of major importance and not to be left unattacked - even if events prove that the effort shall have been in vain. The matter should not be permitted to go by default of either time or appropriate effort.

Against that background there are offered the following names of persons deemed qualified for, respectively, the position of senior officer in the "task force" (or team) and of subordinate officers:

Principal Officers	Subordinate Officers
James K. Penfield	Fulton Freeman
John Davies, Jr.	Ralph N. Clough
A. Sabin Chase	
Philip D. Sprouse	
Raymond P. Ludden	

I am prepared to volunteer my own services, for the function of one officer in that team, if my capacities are deemed to fit the requirements and my services are desired for the task in point.

The team could of course be made up entirely of personnel listed as "principal officer" material. It should not, on the other hand, be composed only of officers selected from the second category. The task force could well be based technically in Tokyo, if administrative procedure

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procedure or political discretion made such definition advisable, but they should in effect have roving commissions and wide latitude of discretion. Their mission could be as indefinite in life as flexible in function, and might be expanded, altered, or terminated, depending upon developments.

It is recommended that you discuss this matter earliest with S/P and G to determine action.

CC: S/P - Mr. Krentz